THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No.* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

WOMEN'S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF.

QUARTERLY SESSION OF THE SANITARY COMMISSION IN WASHINGTON.—NO. V.

For the past month, from December 15, to January 15, we have to report as follows: Number of packages received, 331. Distributed to Annapolis, 16 packages; Washington, 40 packages; Harper's Ferry, 2 packages; Norfolk, Va., 38 packages; Bermuda Hundred, 1 package; Beaufort, S. C., 51 packages; Savannah, 6 packages; Hospitals in and near New York, 17 packages; Hospital transports, 14 packages; steamers in Mobile Bay and elsewhere, 9 packages.

All kinds of hospital supplies, excepting lint, are needed; but more especially flannel clothing, bed quilts, socks and mittens.

During the past week we had the privilege of being present at the Quarterly Session of the Board of Commissioners in Washington. Besides the daily meeting of the Standing Committee in New York, and the fortnightly meeting of the members from Boston, Philadelphia and New York, a session of the whole Board is held every three months in Washington, usually lasting about a week. At these meetings reports are received from agents in every part of the field, representing every department of the work. These are discussed and passed upon. The plan of work for the future is also determined upon. There were present at the January session, last week, beside Commissioners from both Eastern and Western States, the officers of the Commission, several Associate Members and representatives from two of the Eastern Branches. As has been repeated again and again, the policy which has guided us all through our work has been, and is, to give you the fullest information as to the conduct of our own work, and the work of the Commission. It was to enable us to do this more satisfactorily, that we asked and readily obtained permission to be present at this session of the Board.

How shall we begin to condense these twenty-three pages of notes which we have brought away with us? How can we give you an idea of the magnitude of the work as it was forced upon us, weighted with the mighty power of concentration? How make you understand in ten minutes, what we could not comprehend in as many hours? It seems hopeless, and yet we want to try and give you some of the impressions we have brought home with us.

The *extent* of the work and the *character of the agents* now in the service of the Commission remain among the most prominent of these impressions.

Thousands of miles were traveled over in those few hours. Wherever the Sanitary Commission went, we went, and the Sanitary Commission went everywhere. We were driving wagon-loads of hospital supplies on to the battle-field—any battle-field—every battle-field. We were binding up wounds; we were feeding the hungry and clothing the naked. Or it was a night spent at the Home in Washington, or Cincinnatti, or Nashville, or New Orleans, and we were watching those weary eyes light up in that bright, cheerful room, watching the smile upon the pale, thin face at this foretaste of home-comfort. Now, we were standing in a garden with its long, neat rows of cabbages and onions and potatoes. Again we were marching through a rich and fertile country, with a mighty host, and at the end of our journey, raising a sick boy for his first sight of that grand, deep-blue ocean. We were collecting the back pay for a disabled soldier waiting to go home. We carried the first instalment of pension money to a poor widow. We were reading a funeral service in the wilderness by the side of an open grave. We were on ship-board, lifting down cabin stairs, and caring as best we might, for those brave men who went from us strong and well to be returned the victims of systematic and fiendish cruelty. We were writing to a mother, anxious about an only son, telling her that he was safe, that he was recovering, that he should want for nothing. We were building chapels and reading rooms. We were putting Bibles and Prayer-books into some hands; picture and story-books into others. We were watching by the bedside, and praying with a dying man. We were merry over a game of checkers with a little drummer boy, whose happy face was a bright spot in that hospital ward. We were reading a letter, a half-sheet of coarse, yellow paper, merely a pencil scrawl, dated Florence, S. C., "Would the Sanitary Commission send food and clothing and blankets, for we have nothing to cover us."

We will not take you further on this terrible journey, for with all that we can do to alleviate suffering, the horrors of war must still remain uppermost, when one comes in contact with them. We do not wish to take you into battle and pestilence, and through the many scenes which we hope may ever remain among the untold, but will bring you at last to the end of our journey. It was a bright picture and pleasant ending to be brought back into one of your own cheerful, happy sewing circles, and there we will rest, for that is our home.

Does this faint outline give you any idea of the extent of the work of the Commission? Hardly, we are well aware. In fact, many of the departments of the work have not been touched upon at all. And yet we hope it may have brought the relief work somewhat nearer to you.

We spoke of having been impressed by the character of the Relief Agents of the Commission, as made known to us by personal observation, and through their written reports. This visit to Washington only confirmed the impression of previous visits among the Homes and Lodges of the Commission there, bearing new testimony as to the fitness, the reliability, the humanity and tenderness of those persons in charge of these different resting-places for our soldiers. The same impression was derived from the reports we heard read. They were evidently written by earnest, hard-working men, men whose hearts were in their work. They were not only detailed, business-like reports of what had been accomplished, but they contained suggestions for improvement, and requests to be allowed to do more—those unmistakable signs of life and sincerity. We should feel ashamed of any want of confidence in these men. Be assured that we may not only trust them, but be grateful that our gifts to our soldiers are rendered doubly precious from being received through such faithful loving hands.

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER,
Chairman Committee on Correspondence, &c.,
NEW YORK, *Jan.* 16, 1865.

BEDDING FOR HOSPITAL USE.

Bedsack of burlap or ticking, 2 yards and 12 inches long; 40 inches wide. Sew all round. Cut opening in middle 27 inches long; close with three [3] buttons; put a stay at each end of opening and one under each button. Required, 3 knots linen thread.

Pillow Sacks of ticking or crash; 16 inches wide, 30 inches long. Leave opening in middle of one end. Close with 2 buttons.

Sheets. Linen and cotton. 8 feet long. 4 feet wide. Required, one-half skein of cotton or one-twelfth part of a hank.

Pillow Cases of cotton or linen. ½ yard wide. 1 yard long.

Quilts. 7 feet long. 50 inches wide.

Blankets for single beds.

CUSHIONS FOR WOUNDED LIMBS.

Square Cushions from 8 to 24 inches square.

Ring Cushions to be made in the form of a ring from 8 inches to 24 inches in diameter.

The best covering is enamel cloth, but any material may be used. In stuffing, avoid anything heating. Any of the following articles may be used: hair, excelsior, tow, carpet ravelings, shreds of husk, straw or hay.

Hop Cushions covered with any cheap material, 8 to 24 inches square.

Bandages of old cloth, strong enough to bear a firm steady pull. All selvages and seams should be torn off. In piecing lap one edge well over the other, without turnings, and sew firmly close to each edge. Be sure the pieces are exactly the same width. Roll very tight and even (bandage machines are cheap and very desirable). Mark the length on outer edge and fasten with two small pins. The most useful are from 2½ to 3½ inches wide and from 5 to 8 yards long. The roll must never be never be too large to be held easily in one hand.

Old Linen and Cotton pieces, no matter how small, tied in bundles and marked on the outside. Tear off all selvages and seams.

Lint may be made in various ways.

1. Of linen ravelings of any length thrown together without order.

2. Of linen ravelings from 4 to 8 inches long laid in order, but not tied.

3. Of scraped linen.

4. Of balsam.

The different kinds must be separated, and never packed in newspapers.

Towels of crash or strong cloth, seven-eighths of a yard long.

Handkerchiefs of any soft material. Large size.

DIRECTIONS FOR HOSPITAL CLOTHING.

DIRECTIONS FOR KNITTING SOCKS.

1 lb. yarn knits three pair socks.

Use No. 13 needles, and three-threaded yarn.

For small sock, set up 65 stitches—foot 10 inches long.

For medium sock, set up 70 stitches—foot 11 inches long.

For very large sock, set up 75 stitches—foot 12 inches long.

Leg.—Cast on stitches. Rib 3½ inches. Knit plain 6½ inches, keeping one stitch seam.

Heel.—Take half the stitches on one needle for the back of heel. Knit three inches, seaming every other row. Then turn the heel thus: Knit three-quarters of your stitches, and slip and bind the first stitch of the last quarter. Turn and seam back, repeating the same on first stitch of the quarter at the other end, and so on, back and forward, till the two end quarters are used up.

Instep.—Divide the remaining stitches on two needles, and pick up on each needle the stitches on that side of the heel. With these and the stitches on the instep needle begin the foot. Narrow at the last stitch but two on the side needles, near the instep needle. Do this every other round until you have reduced the number of stitches on each heel needle to half that on instep needle.

Foot.—Knit on plain till your foot is the right length, allowing 2½ inches for the toe.

Toe.—Knit one round, narrowing every seventh stitch. Then knit six rows plain. Knit one round narrowing every sixth stitch. Five rows plain, and so on till you narrow every other stitch. Cast off.

Run heels and toes.

To avoid running, and make heel double, follow directions for heel as above; but on seam needle, slip every other stitch.

DIRECTIONS FOR KNITTING MITTENS.

(*With one Finger and Thumb.*)

Cast on 76 stitches.

Rib 2 inches.

Knit 1 inch plain.

Make 1 stitch in the middle of needle.

Knit 2 rounds plain. Make 1 stitch (in 3d round) on each side of the new stitch. Proceed in this way, making 1 new stitch on each side of the other new ones, in every third round, till there are 21. Take off these 21 new stitches on a thread. Knit the rest of the stitches, making 4 additional ones on the first round where the separation for the thumb occurs, thus making 80 stitches in the hand. Knit a little more than an inch plain. Take off 24 stitches on a thread to form the first finger, and joining the rest together, knit round and round 2½ inches more; narrow every 5th stitch. Knit 5 rows; narrow every 4th stitch. Knit 4 rows and so on.

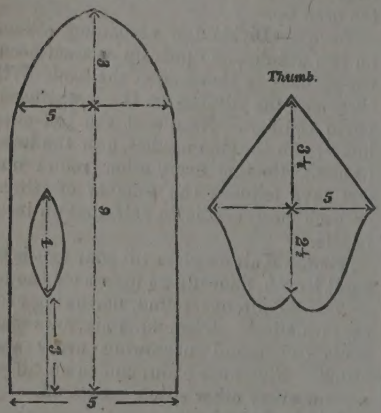
For finger, take up the 24 stitches. Knit

plain 2¾ inches; narrow every 3d stitch. Knit 3 rows, &c.

For thumb, take up the 21 stitches and the 4 new ones in front of the thumb, thus making 25 in all. Knit 1½ inches; narrow every 3d stitch. Knit 3 rows, &c., as in finger.

ANOTHER KIND OF MITTEN.

Mitten—Right Hand.



DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING MITTEN.

It may be made of any strong woolen material. The diagram shows the outside, the inside is the same, without the hole for the thumb.

The mitten is whole on the side next the thumb; if the cloth is not large enough this is not necessary. It is to be stitched round and hemmed at the bottom.

The thumb is to be stitched and sewed into the hole. An elastic braid draws up the inside at wrist.

WRISTERS—(KNIT.)

Wristers.—Use four needles. Rib, like the leg of a sock, about 6 inches, setting up enough stitches to slip well over a man's hand. Then begin to make hole for thumb by knitting backwards and forwards on needles for 2 inches. Then knit round and round again for about 3 inches. Cast off.

HOME, DUTY, WIFE AND SANITARY!

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF AN AGENT, AT CITY POINT.

I have the honor to report that after a brief but very pleasant visit home, I am prepared again to labor in the cause I deem so worthy. It was somewhat trying to leave home this time. The little social circles are gathered round the hearths and the long winter evenings are crowded full of happiness. All the summer I looked forward to a winter of rest and quiet enjoyment at home. These considerations and the remonstances of friends made the parting reluctant, but I could not yield and remain away, and know that there was a privilege still open to me, a creditable task that I might do.

I do not wish sir, in extolling the cause, to evince a selfish pride. I am only anxious that you should know that I appreciate the work in which we are engaged, and that every atom of heart is enlisted in its behalf.

On the mail boat I got into conversation with a civilian, evidently "well to do in the world," and "rather set in his ways." Without solicitation, he spoke as follows:

"The Sanitary is doing a *great* work. The people North don't know it. They don't appreciate its magnitude or the thorough manner in which it is done. I am a Boston grocer. I used to be decidedly opposed to the Sanitary Commission. Thought it was a money-making concern. Wife often wanted to contribute, but I always said 'No!' and put my foot down heavily if urged.

"I came up from the store one day. There was an appeal in the papers. Wife said 'John, I want to send something to the Sanitary rooms for the soldiers,' but I said emphatically several times, 'You shall not send a thing." She persevered, saying; 'Suppose George,' (I had a brother-in-law in the service then) 'Suppose George is sick. Wouldn't you like to send him something nice?' I grew emphatic, and hammered the table some and said, 'He'd never get it if it were sent.' She took a newspaper and held it before her face, I never knew whether she laughed or cried, but *two hours later I met her coming out of the Sanitary rooms, whither she had just taken some goods.*

"I was unconverted till Gettysburg. I was with the army there. I saw the Commission work. Sir, they saved thousands of lives. I could not disbelieve my own eyes. I was at Fredricksburg when the town was filled with mangled humanity, and the authorities could not do much. It was the same there. No task was too arduous or loathsome for the agents to do.

"When I got home I said, 'If you have anything to give, give it to the Sanitary, it is doing the right thing. Don't be afraid,' and now I feel in duty bound to do and say all I can for your cause."

I have dwelt upon this gentleman's testimony longer perhaps than is necessary, but I cannot let it pass without alluding to a fact upon which it bears. The people, the supporters of this beneficence, should know more of its workings, should be familarized with its individual results.

THE WORK OF A GREAT PEOPLE.

A pamphlet with the above title, having reference to the operations of the Sanitary Commission, has recently been issued in Paris. It is distinguished throughout by a very liberal spirit towards this country, and evinces a familiarity with affairs in the United States, which is certainly remarkable in a foreigner. Its perusal must, we think, afford sincere gratification, not merely to those who are directly interested in the reputation of the Sanitary Commission, but to all who feel a pride in the true glory of the country. We make the following extracts.

A remarkable fact proved by the statistics of different armies, is not so generally known as it should be; it is that DURING A CAMPAIGN, AT LEAST THREE TIMES AS MANY SOLDIERS DIE OF DISEASE, AND FROM A WANT OF THE PROPER CARE WITH RESPECT TO THE WOUNDED, AS ARE KILLED BY THE ENEMY. Such a condition of things demands our most serious attention, that it may be remedied as far as possible.

The statistics of the medical corps of the English army, establish the fact that, during the war in the Crimea, while the mortality resulting from wounds was only three per cent. of the whole number, that produced by disease amounted to more than twenty per cent.

In the war of 1846 between the United States and Mexico, the difference in the American army was still more considerable, for scarcely fourteen in a thousand died of wounds, while about one hundred and three in a thousand fell victims to disease, intemperance, &c.

During a military campaign, it is almost impossible for the medical corps to give much attention to purely sanitary measures, all their time and attention being required in taking care of the sick and wounded. Moreover their duty is prescribed to them according to strict military rules, in which, for the most part, everything which looks like innovation is studiously avoided.

The experience of all nations proves that the proper application of sanitary science to armies in a state of war, is yet to be learned. Whatever can throw light upon so important a subject, be its source what it may, must contribute to the general interests of humanity.

We propose, in the following pages to show what the Americans have done, during the war which for three years has desolated their country, towards solving this important problem. The energy and eminently practical sense of that people have led them to move of their own accord in this enterprise, without waiting for the assistance or cooperation of the government. The women and even the children of the republic have been employed in promoting the comfort of the soldiers during the campaign, and their numerous agents have proved by their example that voluntary assistance and practical advice may be given to the medical corps of an army, without interfering with military discipline, and yet essentially promoting the comfort and welfare of the troops. The results obtained afford a signal confirmation of the noble words of M. Henry Munant: "The *personel* of military moving hospitals is always insufficient, everywhere in all wars, in every age and in every army." The military annals of all nations confirm this melancholy truth, and what is yet more sad, however generous and persevering may be the efforts made by the Government to extend or improve the regularly provided means for succoring the sick and wounded, a satisfactory result cannot thus be reached.

THE PROJECT OF A SANITARY COMMISSION IN THE UNITED STATES.

Let us now turn our eyes to the distant land of America; towards those battle-fields moistened with the blood of thousands of soldiers—of fathers, brothers, husbands. No war in ancient or modern times has appeared to us so horrible as the one which now rends that unhappy country. For three years past it has seemed each successive day to increase in severity. Every succeeding day America is the scene of fresh horrors, in relating which the writers of Europe seem to vie with each other as to which shall exhibit the greatest power of tragic description. In the proclamations of sovereigns, in the discussions of legislative assemblies, in the public journals, everywhere, in short, all are agreed

in deploring the length and obstinacy of this fratricidal conflict. Accustomed to look at the question only from this point of view, the people of Europe are firmly convinced that the history of this war can be nothing more than a monotonous recital of massacres, of ruin and despair, without one ray of beneficence or humanity to soften the darkness of the picture.

Is it not strange that when the evil side of this question is so thoroughly understood the good alone should remain entirely concealed? Yet in the midst of the deluge of blood and fire in which America is now plunged, she has been able to give a form—as yet imperfect perhaps, but practical—to that which was elsewhere nothing more than an aspiration. In the midst of this vast desolation, the inevitable result of such a war, generous hearts have been moved while beholding the sufferings of the combatants, and compassionate women and noble men have accomplished a work which Europe had as yet only contemplated.

It is not our purpose to discuss here either the motives or the object of the civil war which broke out in the United States on the bombardment of Fort Sumter. The subject with which we propose to occupy these pages, is the work of beneficence and philanthropy commenced and established by the women of the United States, on so vast a scale and with so much success. We would, if possible, by setting forth their intentions, their plans, and the results at which they have arrived, induce the people of other nations to follow their example—to form similar organizations in anticipation of similar results. This field of labor is a neutral territory, where persons of all parties may meet together. Political or national distinctions have nothing to do with this great question. It is impossible (which ever side of the American contest we may be inclined to espouse,) not to feel the highest admiration for the courage with which these women have surmounted all the obstacles that one must necessarily encounter in such an enterprise, and not to wish them success in their noble work of humanity and beneficence.—*L' Œuvre d'un Grand Peuple, par J. N. P., Paris*, 1864.

In future numbers of the BULLETIN other extracts from this admirable pamphlet will appear, so that our readers will see how the Sanitary Commission is esteemed in France.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORT ON THE OPERATIONS OF THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION IN THE VALLEY OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

For the Quarter ending September 30, 1864. *By Dr. J. S. Newberry, Secretary Western Department.*

LOUISVILLE, KY., *October* 22, 1864.

DR. J. FOSTER JENKINS,
General Secretary Sanitary Commission:

DEAR SIR:—I herewith submit detailed Reports of the different departments of our work for the three months ending September 30, which will, I trust, give full and clear information of what has been accomplished, and how it has been done, in all parts of the field under my supervision.

These reports I will preface by a general summary, presenting in a condensed view all the information derived from this and other sources, which will be of interest, and have a practical bearing on the administration of the Commission.

You are so well informed from my weekly reports, and from the public journals, in regard to the progress of military events in this department, that no detailed history of them will now be necessary or proper at my hands.

Suffice it to say that our attention, as well as that of the public, has been in a large degree centered in that great move on the military chess-board, the advance of Sherman's army into the heart of Georgia, and the succession of battles and victories culminating in the capture of Atlanta. Most of the events connected with that campaign occurred in a previous quarter, and, so far as they had a bearing on our work, have been reported to you.

Although to a greater or less degree embarrassed by the interruption of communication with the front, and by the want of transportation, which we shared with every branch of the service, up to the time of the capture of Atlanta we were able to keep with the army so large a working force, provided with so generous a supply of stores, that we were at all times prepared to furnish to those needing it such an amount of material and manual aid as to considerably soften the hardships of an arduous campaign, and fully sustain the reputation and responsibilities of the Commission.

The number of our agents paralyzed or removed by sickness rendered it necessary to send so large reinforcements to the field, that our corps presented a more formidable array of names than ever before; compell-

ing us to draw more largely on our privileges of passes and transportation than has ever before been necessary. In addition to this, a host of civilians, representing other benevolent organizations, or pursuing individual aims of a philanthropic or mercenary nature, reckoned themselves, or were reckoned by the military authorities—who, since the recall of Gen. Rosecrans, have never been careful to discriminate between the good and bad, the true and the false—in the category of "sanitary agents," of whom, at one time, eighty per week were receiving passes and transportation from Chattanooga to the front. Impelled by a desire to abate this clear and formidable abuse, a step rendered necessary by the difficulties surrounding the transportation of supplies to the army, Gen. Sherman issued a peremptory order prohibiting, with a few rare exceptions, the access of all civilians to the forces at the front, and limiting the number of our agents in the field. Under this order we were permitted to keep but two resident agents at Atlanta—a smaller number than was desirable to sustain all the departments of our work, and yet, with the detailed help and other facilities cheerfully furnished us, sufficient to prevent serious embarrassment. The interests of the Commission with Sherman's army, and all along the line of communication with that army, are now in the hands of our most experienced and efficient agents, all important absentees having returned to duty; and I have entire confidence that we shall enjoy in the future, as we have done for three years past, all facilities and privileges necessary for the thorough performance of our work.

Dr. Reed having recovered from the serious illness which compelled him to withdraw, has returned to take the supervision of the field work in Gen. Sherman's army. We may be sure that, guided by his wisdom, it will not languish or be badly done.

At Chattanooga, the agency is again under the care of M. C. Read, who, with Mr. Hosford, has recently returned from sick furlough. The absence of both these gentlemen has been seriously felt, and I congratulate myself that they are again at their posts, in the enjoyment of full physical vigor, and the exercise of the rare faculties which they possess.

The garden at Chattanooga, under the management of Mr. Wills, has more than accomplished our anticipations of its usefulness. The entire issues from it during the season to October 1, have been 10,023 bushels of potatoes, tomatoes, beans, &c., and 1,784 dozens of corn, melons, squashes, cabbages, with a large store of fall crops still remaining.

At Knoxville we have suffered serious loss in the death of Mr. J. H. Milliken, a most estimable and efficient man, who had the superintendency of the agency after the departure of Dr. Seymour. His place has since been filled by Mr. T. Y. Gardener, who is no less worthy of our respect and esteem. The hospital garden, in charge of Mr. Culbertson, although less extensive than at Chattanooga, has played a no less important part in the supply of the hospitals there. During the month of September, Mr. Culbertson distributed from the garden 277 bushels of tomatoes, 264 bushels of beans, 6,347 dozen cucumbers (mostly pickles), 1,929 heads of cabbage, &c.

The "feeding stations" at Kingston, Dalton, Decherd, &c., have formed a most important, indeed, indispensable portion of our work, during the last quarter. Under the general supervision of Mr. Eno, and individually managed by Mr. Brundrett, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Sutliffe, and Dr. Hillman, they have supplied food, and all needed care, to nearly every sick or wounded man transported from the front to the rear, extending their benefits to many thousands, and performing a service of incalculable value.

The agency at Nashville has continued under the supervision of Judge Root, and has been most wisely conducted, and highly prosperous. With its business offices, its warehouse, its Soldiers' Home, and agents' quarters, each occupying a distinct building, the Sanitary Commission at Nashville is a very conspicuous and noticeable institution, yet I am sure uses to excellent purpose the wide space which it covers. Indeed, the work it is accomplishing has already outgrown its accommodations.

The "Soldiers' Home," under the efficient management of Capt. Brayton, has become an institution so popular as to be constantly filled to overflowing, and has proved so inadequate in capacity to the demand upon it, that the military authorities have promised to give us, in exchange for the building now occupied, one of the largest hospital buildings in the city.

At Louisville no changes have occurred in our work or our corps of agents requiring special mention. Each department is

moving on smoothly, and, as you will see from the accompanying detailed reports, with steadily increasing importance.

The Home has never accommodated near so many as within the past three months, having been daily crowded to its utmost capacity. And such has been the throng of furloughed and discharged men passing through the city, that the necessity has been laid upon us for the establishment of a similar institution on the opposite side of the river, of which mention will be made in the notice of the department of Special Relief. The warehouse has never been so much crowded with stores as of late, nor the amount of goods received and shipped daily near so large.

The condition of the HOSPITAL DIRECTORY will be learned from the accompanying report of its Superintendent, and I will only say in regard to it that the value of its register, now so immense, is receiving constant and increasing illustration. Reports from all the hospitals in this department come in with regularity, and I have reason to believe that the great importance of this branch of our work is now fully recognized as well by the military and medical authorities as by the people.

The demand for the REPORTER has been gradually increasing, and we are now compelled to print an edition of about 7,500 copies. We have satisfactory evidence that we are far more than compensated for the expenditure by the influence it exerts, in spreading a knowledge of, and fostering an interest in, our work.

The Pension Agency, as you are aware, but recently established here, has been rapidly gaining in importance, and has already secured the presentation and acceptance of the claims of very many deserving persons, too ignorant or too poor to prosecute them without its assistance.

DISTRICT OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

The work of the Commission on the Mississippi, so greatly reduced by the withdrawal of the Army of the Tennessee, has of late claimed more of our attention, from the activity of military movements in that quarter. The agencies of the Commission at Cairo, Memphis, and Vicksburg, have been constantly maintained, it is true, and the first of these has grown rather than diminished in importance, but the garrisons of the posts along the river have been comparatively small, requiring only a limited amount of assistance from us; and the army in Arkansas, mostly composed of troops from the Department of the Gulf, has been considered still within the sanitary jurisdiction of Dr. Blake, of New Orleans, and has been followed by his representatives, who have, as a general rule, looked to him for supplies.

The prevalence of a scorbutic taint in this army has, however, created a demand for such a quantity, and such kinds of stores, as could not be readily supplied from the Atlantic States. In these circumstances, Dr. Blake appealed to me for vegetables, and other anti-scorbutics, and in answer to this, the *Dunleith* was fully freighted and sent down the Mississippi, delivering half her cargo at New Orleans, distributing the other half at way stations along the route. This shipment was most timely, and was welcomed with enthusiasm by Dr. Blake and the military authorities. As, however, it furnished but a temporary relief from the wants it was intended to meet, it has seemed to me necessary to forward further supplies by the same means, and the *Dunleith* has been reloaded and again despatched on the same route. It is scarcely possible that the troops on the lower Mississippi and its tributaries can receive an adequate supply of anti-scorbutics from any other source than the Western States; and should the difficulties now existing of procuring adequate transportation through the Quartermaster's Department continue, it may be desirable to make further shipments by steamers chartered for that purpose.

The business of the agency at Cairo, as I have intimated, has of late been greater than ever, and I cannot speak too highly of the zeal and wisdom with which it has been managed by Mr. Shipman. The Home at this point has been for weeks and months past, literally inundated with the tide of soldiers that has flowed through it, and there are few who see the crowds fed and sheltered there that fail to ask themselves what would be the fate of these poor fellows were no such asylum provided for them.

In compliance with the request of the Medical Director, Dr. D. W. K. Danforth, approved by Lieut. Colonel Allen, Medical Inspector, I have recently established a "Home" at Paducah, under the supervision of Mr. Edward D. Way. A commodious building, and all other needed facilities, have been provided by the military authorities, and I have reason to believe that the

"Home" at this point, though not large, will be complete in its appointments, well managed and a great blessing to those who may become inmates of it.

DISTRICT OF KANSAS.

During the past quarter, our work in Kansas has been thoroughly reorganized, and freed from some incumbrances by which it was formerly somewhat clogged. Our efficient agent there, Mr. J. R. Brown, embraced in his wide-spread sympathy every object of compassion or charity in any way consequent upon the war, so that the refugees and contrabands, as well as the sick and wounded of our soldiery, found in him a most earnest and devoted friend.

So untiring and successful was he in his efforts, that he became recognized by both the people and the military authorities as the great, if not the sole, medium through which all cases of want and suffering were to be relieved. As a natural consequence, he found himself rapidly involved in duties and responsibilities which made drafts on his strength and resources he was utterly unable to meet. After struggling bravely with accumulating difficulties, finally overburdened and discouraged, he applied to me for counsel and assistance. At my suggestion he accompanied me to New York, and presented the claims of the refugees to the officers of the societies formed for their care. As I hoped, his appeal was answered at once, and such provisions made for the support of both white and black refugees, that Mr. Brown has relieved himself of all but a general supervision of their interests, and has thus been able to give a more undivided attention to our work. The present invasion of Missouri, and threatened invasion of Kansas, have given great activity to military operations in this quarter, and I have authorized Mr. Brown to employ additional assistance, if necessary, to meet the increased demand upon him.

WEST VIRGINIA.

The concentration of troops in the Valley of the Shenandoah has withdrawn from Western Virginia the larger portion of those for whose care we have been in some degree responsible. Our work has therefore materially decreased in this district, and I have directed Mr. Fracker to break up the agency at Marietta and transfer his stores to Wheeling; trusting to be able to meet the demands arising in this district from that one station. All parts of this field have been recently inspected by Dr. Parker, and the change I have designated has been made in accordance with his recommendation.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

A marked change has taken place in our work in this department since the beginning of the war. Then everything was needed, of diet, clothing, or medicine, by well men or sick, that we could furnish. Now, the number and variety of cases of desease in the veteran regiments is comparatively small. The heads of the hydra which formerly devoured at such a fearful rate our newly-recruited forces, have been by various influences scotched, until but two formidable ones remain—scurvy and chronic diarrhœa.

The resources and methods of the Medical Department have been so far improved, and its officers are now so thoroughly trained in their duties, that comparatively little is needed from us of clothing, medicine and delicacies, of which we formerly supplied such large quantities.

Our efforts, therefore, of late, have been mainly directed to the supply of the universal and pressing demand for vegetables and other anti-scorbutics, which are not, and cannot be, furnished in sufficient quantities through the regular channel.

During the year past, the quantity of potatoes, onions and cabbages, fresh and canned tomatoes, kraut, pickles, dried apples, &c., which we have forwarded to the army, has been, as you will see by our tabulated reports, unprecedentedly large. To procure these, our friends all over the Northern States have been actively engaged, and our agents have not only visited all our own markets, but also those of Canada.

The season for the production and distribution of these articles had, at the 1st of October, but just commenced; but our shipments of onions, for example, had, up to that time and since the last report, exceeded twenty thousand bushels.

In addition to the supplies just enumerated, soft crackers and codfish, not furnished in any considerable quantities by the Commissary Department, have formed an important part of our shipments. Of stimulants, since they are freely supplied through the regular channel, and are, of all stores, most liable to misappropriation, we have forwarded as few as possible. Concentrated beef and concentrated milk have been in such constant demand, and are articles so generally and decidedly useful, that we have

been in the past, and shall be in the future, compelled to make them prominent items in our supply table.

From the statements I have made, it will be seen that we have now relieved ourselves from the most fruitful cause of anxiety and reproach in the administration of our Supply Department; and any one who will examine the invoices of our shipments to the army will soon discover that canned fruits, wines, and other domestic delicacies, in regard to the use of which our contributors have had so much concern, form a very insignificant part of them; and we may hereafter effectually silence the criticisms of those who question the purity of our work in this department, by the assertion that scarcely one per cent. of our stores are such as are susceptible of misappropriation or unworthy use.

In the transportation of supplies, we have had no other difficulties than such as were incident to the interruption of communication with the front, and the crowded state of the road when open. On the contrary, we have enjoyed every facility which we could ask at all points, and from the officers in every branch of the service. The recent break in the road has occasioned the accumulation of twelve car loads of onions at Chattanooga and six at Nashville, all of which were intended for Atlanta. But since there is now a large force on this side of Tunnel Hill, where the break begins, there is ample demand for all we have to issue.

On the Mississippi, the interruption of trade has so far diminished the opportunities for shipment, that it has been necessary, as I have before stated, to charter a steamer for the supply of our stations in that district. As soon as adequate transportation can be otherwise procured, this source of expenditure will, of course, be removed.

In our constituency of the Home Field a cordial and harmonious spirit of co-operation prevails. Where large funds have been collected by Sanitary Fairs, a disposition has been manifested to rest upon the unusual exertion made in connection with them; there has been a relaxation in the efforts to collect supplies, and, as a consequence, a diminution in the quantity received. In every field, however, the produce has been precisely proportionate to the thoroughness of the tillage, and there is scarcely a portion of the country from which we derive stores that could not be made doubly productive by a more vigorous and systematic canvass.

DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL RELIEF.

Our work in this department has so far increased as to be inferior to no other in magnitude and importance, and there scarcely seems to be a limit to the work of mercy which may be done by the different offices and institutions which it includes. The number of "Soldiers' Homes" under the superintendence of the Sanitary Commission in this department was, at the date of my last report, eleven, namely, those at Nashville, Louisville, Camp Nelson, Memphis, Cairo, Cincinnati, Columbus, Cleveland, Buffalo, and New Albany. To these I have recently added one at Paducah, and another at Jeffersonville, Indiana. In the accompanying report will be found an enumeration of the lodgings and meals furnished to the inmates of these homes, during the past quarter, forming an aggregate of 111,748 lodgings, and 322,881 meals. While these large numbers will impress any one with the magnitude of the work accomplished by the "Homes," they form but an imperfect exponent of the many and varied good offices which they perform to the objects of their charities. I must refer you to the detailed reports from their superintendents for a fair presentation of a subject to which space will not now permit me to do anything like justice.

HOSPITAL TRAINS.

The transportation of sick and wounded, at one time a conspicuous portion of our work and expenditure, has now become so far self-sustaining as to require little intervention on our part. The hospital trains organized by the Sanitary Commission, and for eighteen months manned and sustained by it, were turned over to the medical authorities as soon as they were willing to accept the responsibility; and the major part of the expense attending the fitting up of the numerous and complete hospital cars on the road has been borne by the Government, although the contributions made by the Sanitary Commission have, in the aggregate, amounted to some thousands of dollars.

In the transfer of the care of the sick to the Government, Dr. Barnum, who was in our service, was employed by the Medical Department, and he has since been given the supervision of the whole matter of the transportation of the sick

and wounded to the rear, and the superintendence of all the trains upon the road. By his wisdom and energy, the work has been so far systematized as to form one of the best ordered branches of the medical service in this department.

To enable Dr. Barnum to accomplish his purposes fully, he has been authorized to draw freely upon the resources of the Commission, and a small number of his assistants continue to be paid from its funds.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.

The duty performed by the Hospital Visitors continues to hold the high place in my respect which I have heretofore given it, and my only regret, in this connection, is that the number of devoted and faithful men engaged in it cannot be largely increased. The reports of several of the Hospital Visitors are herewith submitted, and from them you may judge whether I overestimate their value. The Commission has sustained a serious loss in the resignation of Rev. J. P. T. Ingraham, for the year past our Hospital Visitor at Nashville. Greatly to the regret of all with whom he has been associated, he has felt compelled to return to his pastoral duties.

In this connection I ought to refer to two sources of expenditure which properly belong to the Department of Special Relief; of these, the first to which I refer is the pre-payment of postage on soldiers' letters, retained in the offices of Chattanooga, Nashville and Louisville. The number of letters, mostly kind words from home, thus made to reach their destination, is something like 16,000 per month, forwarded at a cost of about $800. I cannot but think that the present arrangement, useful as it is, should be but temporary, and that if this great and richly deserved blessing cannot be secured to the soldier through the Post Office Department, the subject should receive the attention of Congress at the commencement of the next session.

Yours, respectfully,

J. S. NEWBERRY.

A—FINANCES.

The cash expenditures of this department have been almost entirely made from funds collected in the East and in the far West. The contributions made to the Sanitary Commission by the loyal States of the Mississippi Valley have equalled, both in gross amount and in proportion to the population, those derived from any and all other portions of the Union; but they have been for obvious reasons, mostly made in kind, and not in cash. The great West is still comparatively poor in money, but rich in the vast though unconverted capital of her fertile plains and exhaustless mines, and richer still in the conspicuous patriotism of her warm-hearted people. That which she has had—the fruits of the field, the treasures of the earth, the products of the loom and anvil—she has given without measure.

The East, richer in capital, has given most freely of that; while the extreme West, too distant to send her less valuable products, has made her contributions in silver and gold.

Thus it happens, that the cash expended through my hands has been drawn directly from the treasury of the Commission in New York, while the contributions of the Western States, as they have reached me, have been altogether in stores; the cash collected by cities, towns, and villages for the Sanitary Commission, by fairs or otherwise, having been kept by each, for such things as could be better bought at such points than elsewhere.

The money expended by the Western Secretary is deposited to his credit in New York, and drawn upon as wanted. All such money is accounted for with rigid exactness. A statement of account, with vouchers, is forwarded at the close of each month, at which time the accounts of the Western Department, like all others, are balanced and closed. In addition to the careful examination of our accounts at the central office, at each quarterly meeting they are audited by such men as Prof. Bache, Horace Binney, C. J. Stillé, J. Huntington Wolcott, &c., whose high character for intelligence, conscientiousness, and great business experience, are a sufficient guarranty that they have been accurately kept.

B—SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Hospital stores distributed by the Sanitary Commission in the armies of the West, have been mostly contributed in kind from the several branches of the Commission in the Western Department. In addition to such contributions, purchases of stores have been made from this office to the amount of $139,119 38; and others of the value of $23,471 55, purchased in New York and sent to Louisville. A statement of the kinds and quantities of stores distri-

buted in this department during the quarter ending September 30, 1864, and another showing the aggregate of distributions, from Sept. 1, 1861, to the same date, are herewith given. The value of the supplies distributed by the Sanitary Commission in this department to July 1, 1864, giving each article its value in the home market, was $2,790,811 01.

During the quarter ending Sept. 30, supplies of the value of $385,439 00 were distributed: adding these sums we have as the value of supplies distributed in this department to Oct. 1, 1864, $3,176,270 01.

The expense account of the Supply Department, for this period, is as follows:

Canvassing, - - -	$11,122 79
Freight paid on Stores, -	45,404 12
Distribution of Supplies, -	62,718 70
	$119,245 61

To this should be added one-third of the expenses of general administration, viz., $11,016 58—making the gross expense account of the Supply Department $130,262 19, or about four per cent. on the value of supplies distributed.

It should be remembered, however, that the expenses attending the employment of Lecturers and Canvassers in the Home Field —an item of $11,122 79—in the preceding account has inured to the benefit of the Aid Societies and Branches in all their interests, and is therefore not all chargeable to the Supply Department, and no part of it to be reckoned as the expense of *distributing* stores.

The Freight Account, too, amounting to $45,404 12—since it was altogether incurred in the transportation of stores to the water bases of the different armies, Louisville, Cairo, Memphis, &c., conferred at least an equivalent value on the stores transported, and should therefore be reckoned with donated transportation, as an addition to the valuation of stores as before given. The *distribution* of stores of the value $3,176,270 01 in the home market has been accomplished at a cost of 2½ per cent. upon their valuation. Adding the cost of transportation to the value of the stores, and the cost of distribution would be 2 per cent. of that value. Giving the stores distributed their cash value at the water bases of the armies supplied, and the cost of distribution would be 1½ per cent. of their value; and the whole expense account of the Supply Department would equal less than 3 per cent. of such valuation.

The manner in which the records of the Supply Department are kept, and the credibility of the results given above, can hardly be learned without an inspection of our books and methods; yet I think I can safely say, that all the many experienced men who have carefully examined our system have been satisfied that the methods pursued were economical of labor and money, and the results reported worthy of confidence.

To those who cannot in person examine the manner in which the stores they entrust to us are handled and used, I may say briefly, that the *raising of supplies* is especially the work of the members of our Branch and Auxiliary Societies. In the Home Field the methods pursued are theirs, and the responsibility of the entire work is theirs. I have assumed no control over it, and have taken no part in it, further than to furnish by manuscript or printed reports, or by lecturers, fresh and full information in regard to the condition and wants of the Western armies, the means taken to meet such wants, and such other matters as have a practical bearing on the home work.

From time to time assistance has been needed by the different Branch Societies, and it has been liberally afforded. Canvassing agents, lecturers, messengers, and various assistants, in the work of the Supply Department have been placed at their disposal, and money paid them from the general fund of the Commission to the amount of more than $60,000.

As soon as stores are shipped to me or my representatives from the various contributing depots, I become responsible for their proper use, and am vested with the control of them. The stores passing through Ohio and Illinois are transported free by the splendid liberality of the officers of the railroads terminating in Cincinnati and Cairo. On those coming through Indiana we are compelled to pay freight. Arriving here or at Cairo, stores are carefully checked off from cars and boats into the warehouses. All missing packages are at once looked up, and necessary repairs and cooperage done. From these points stores are forwarded as rapidly as possible, on the theory that any accumulation of stores should be near the army.

With all important divisions of the army, and in every hospital centre, depots are established in care of competent business men, by whom stores are received and issued

to those needing them, on personal application, or on the requisition of the agents of the Commission, or the Surgeons of hospitals and regiments; for all of which receipts are given and record made. Weekly and monthly reports are sent to the Louisville Office of all issues from all the depots, and from these reports the tabular statements, now or heretofore given of our aggregate issues, are compiled.

NINE "SOLDIERS' HOMES."

Number of Lodgings and Meals furnished by the People to the Soldiers, through the Western Department of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, at NINE *of the "Soldiers' Homes," during the months of July, August and September,* 1864.

	LODGINGS.				MEALS.			
	July.	August.	Sept.	Total.	July.	August.	Sept.	Total.
Cairo, Illinois	4,874	4,593	7,712	16,679	15,284	13,262	17,630	46,176
Nashville, Tennessee	4,546	5,731	9,518	19,795	14,552	16,956	26,820	57,328
Memphis, Tennessee	913	1,214	1,335	3,462	4,176	5,187	4,501	13,864
Louisville, Kentucky	8,427	10,761	12,188	31,376	15,929	23,320	26,329	65,578
Camp Nelson, Kentucky	13,470	1,385	5,995	20,850	37,179	5,173	12,805	55,157
New Albany, Indiana	762	1,010	674	2,446	2,372	2,614	2,391	7,377
Detroit, Michigan	1,149	1,638		2,787	1,914	3,462		5,376
Cleveland, Ohio	242	619	333	1,194	1,485	2,610	1,608	5,703
Cincinnati, Ohio	1,673	3,135	8,451	13,159	13,894	18,146	44,282	76,322
	35,456	30,086	46,206	111,748	106,785	90,730	135,366	332,881

Taking this ratio as a basis of estimate, these nine "Homes" would give to our soldiers during one year, **446,992** lodgings and **1,331,524** meals. That the estimate would be too low, however, is apparent from the fact that in the single month of October, Louisville gave 28,203 lodgings and 84,609 meals, and in November 33,449 lodgings and 100,347 meals; thus in two months giving twice the number of lodgings, and treble the number of meals that it furnished in these three. But at this rate there was an average of **3,700** meals given to our soldiers each day of the quarter by the above nine Homes.

WOMEN'S COUNCIL IN BOSTON.

On the 13th and 14th days of December last, the New England Branch of the Sanitary Commission called a meeting of Associate Managers, and of delegates from "all societies working for the soldiers," that by counsel together, all might be aided to more intelligent and faithful pursuance of the work resting on every woman and child in the land. They were asked to bring all questions, doubts and criticisms which they found as obstacles in the way, and by their frank expression show us where we were wrong, or strengthen us in our convictions of right.

Upwards of two hundred women answered the call. Every shade of belief in the Commission found representatives among them, and as result, the discussions were earnest and free, touching on fundamental questions and developing clear convictions. Our hopes of the usefulness of such a meeting were not disappointed. The presence of delegates who came through the heavy snow-storm from far off in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, was encouragement and incentive, and amongst all, there shone forth a warm sympathy and earnestness, giving the meeting a tone of outspoken friendliness which was a most striking feature.

The preliminary meeting, at which we had the pleasure of welcoming Miss Amy Bradley, whose name is so dear to the thousands of soldiers who have felt her care in the great Rendezvous of Distribution, was held on the afternoon of the 13th. The object of the Convention was clearly set before the meeting, as simply a search after the most economical, effective and thorough method of reaching our sick and wounded soldiers; a question not to be decided by light and inconsiderate preference, not one where prejudice could be allowed to influence. The great responsibility bound us all to rest only on honest, thoughtful conviction. Associate members from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts, were called on for information regarding the work in their districts, and the testimony came clear from all that more interest was felt now than heretofore in the subject of army relief, but they were constrained to believe that less work was in truth accomplished. The conflicting claims of so many systems of distribution proving

a clog upon action, checking even the earnest, and giving the indifferent a comfortable and reputable mantle of doubt with which to cover their coldness. This difficulty they found at every turn, taking a thousand changing shapes, and they asked for more clearly stated facts, fuller information and advice to guide them.

MISS BRADLEY.

Miss Bradley here spoke some most appropriate words, telling how, practically, waste must ensue where two plans were on the field, each liable to be deceived, and unconsciously repeat the work already done by the other. In illustration, she gave her own experience in the Rendezvous. For ——— she had been there as agent for the Sanitary Commission, and since its organization, the Christian Commission has also had an agent at that place. At first, this agent carried on his work independently, giving his stores according to his own plan, but soon finding how often he was deceived into giving a double portion, he brought them to Miss Bradley, asking, as a favor, that she would distribute them with her own. When this agent's successor came, the same story was gone over once more, till, in the long-tried system of the Sanitary Commission, was found the safeguard from deceit and unjust waste. And in this connection, she deprecated, earnestly, sending supplies through private hands, and told a surprising instance of the manner in which too facile kindness of heart is abused by the men. She received, one day, from the Commandant of the post, a remonstrance against her lavish waste of stores, being told that the expresses complained of the number of boxes sent from the camp as an annoyance to them, and that these boxes were known to contain new garments and delicacies of food. In answer, she assured him she had never so failed in her duty, but drew his attention to certain constant visitors, called ambulance women, as the cause of the trouble. A few ladies, through special favor, had received the privilege of using ambulances, and were in the habit of filling these with clothing and stores, which, when arrived at camp, they distributed, with open hands, to any who would ask, tempting the loud-tongued to lie, and utterly wasting their stores. From that time these visits were prohibited.

Being urged to tell still more about the work she had left for one short week for our benefit and pleasure, she gave an account of the manner in which she is allowed to help men in distress through loss of papers of discharge. Government gives no duplicate of these, unless there be absolute proof of their destruction, otherwise it would be liable to lose two men for every one really discharged. Even a written statement from an official that the man is entitled to transportation is impossible, for that would amount to a duplicate. So the poor fellows stood helpless till she devised a plan, which Government gladly approved. It is simply this: In her own hand she receives from the Commandant the requisition for transportation for each man, fills up her little train of ambulances with the men named, drives over the river to the Quartermaster's office, shows these requisitions, sees they are filled, and then carries them back to the Commandant to be destroyed. In this way she has helped hundreds of weary, sick men back to their homes.

The meeting listened with the greatest pleasure to her simple account of her labor as it is now, and has been, finding, in her cheerful earnestness, a stimulus to more and better work for our own hands.

The afternoon having worn away, the meeting closed with a few remarks from the Chairman regarding minor business questions. The ladies then adjourned to the office of the Association, to partake of tea and bread and butter, provided by friends especially for their refreshment. The meal was pleasant and cordial, and a most desirable prelude to the public meeting in the evening, to which the delegation proceeded from our rooms.

PUBLIC MEETING.

In the unavoidable absence of Governor Andrews, this meeting was presided over by the Hon. Charles G. Loring. It was addressed by R. H. Dana, Judge Russell, Chaplain Quint, of the 2d Massachusetts Regiment, and Dr. Agnew, of the U. S. Sanitary Commission. The earnest eloquence of Judge Russell, as he described the watchful care of the Commission over the furloughed and discharged soldiers, away from the discipline of camp, away from the influences of home, reached every heart.

Mr. Dana, in his address, put forcibly a truth which lies at the foundation of the Commission's plan: that even if Government could provide all the Commission now gives the soldiers, it ought not to be allowed

so to do, for it would thus rob the people of the work which belongs to them by right, which is felt by them to be a great privilege of the time, developing noble sentiments, giving scope to all unselfish desires, soothing many a grief the war has brought, and fostering, in countless hearts, a true and fervent patriotism.

Dr. Agnew gave some interesting and valuable statistics regarding the work already done, and that which is hoped for, and Chaplain Quint followed with an account of experiences in the field during his Chaplaincy.

At the close of the meeting, a committee of prominent gentlemen was formed for the purpose of soliciting subscriptions adequate to the needs of the Commission.

FINAL MEETING.

The final meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday morning, the 14th. Miss Bradley was again present, also, Dr. Marks, a minister of the Presbyterian Church, from Pittsburg, Pa., who entered the service of his country in the spring of 1861, has now served her for three years and a half, first as Division Chaplain, and since, as one of the laborers of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

The Chairman opened the discussion by saying no one could doubt the earnestness of the women in their great purpose of relief, nor that they all meant to include in it not only succor for the suffering body, but help and soothing for the spirit as well. All were bent on the same end: drawing the tortured frame, out of horror and anguish, and opening the eyes of the soul to the blessedness and peace of loving God. Why, then, should the two principal organizations stand nominally opposed to each other? They each have their own work to do, which all would rejoice to see well and faithfully done. Let them labor together, each doing its own duty, but giving help and sympathy the one to the other. If a child be sick unto death, does not the parent send first for the physician, that he may use his utmost skill to save the life God made? And then, when he has done his best, you turn to your minister, asking from him the words of help your heart needs—the prayers with you and your child, which takes you nearer to God with your pain and danger. You need them both, the physician and the clergyman, but they cannot interchange without loss and failure.

The Sanitary Commission was organized from the beginning to soothe the misery which shuts away all thought except of the moment's pain—to save the life ebbing away on the battle-field, too faint to think of death and the coming life, but it is always eager to pour out its strengthening words of Christian faith and hope. Let these two Commissions then, in God's name, work—work together, not in opposition.

REV. J. J. MARKS.

Dr. Marks here gave an account of his first experience of the Commission at Yorktown. He described the desolation of the place and the misery of the men, and how he began his acquaintance with the Commission by making application for 400 cotton shirts, and carrying them in joyful triumph to men who cried with relief when they put them on.

At Fredricksburg, when 1,500 wounded men lay on the ground, without shelter, or blankets, or bedding, he sought the help of the Christian Commission for a portion of them lying afaint, but could get nothing, except under the direction of one of its agents. He turned to the Sanitary, and received four wagon loads, 400 quilts, 200 bottles of wine, 200 cans of soup, &c., &c., and the men blessed the Sanitary Commission. At Gettysburg also he saw it at work, carrying help even into the enemy's fire, through such scenes of misery, that those who saw, felt a nation's treasure would be well spent in relieving it. He spoke of the great superiority in the administration of this Commission, being the permanence of its agencies. Waste must follow where one man after another takes up the work, forced to learn by his own failures. The agents of the Sanitary Commission he explained are, to a great extent, men who have been officers or soldiers, who know the life and needs of those they help, and so have peculiar hold upon them.

He was asked if he had seen the stores of the Commission wasted, and his answer, in the negative, was most earnest; he had been often moved to joyful pride in seeing how faithfully its servants worked.

At one time, when in great danger, the Government officers had burned $1,500,000 worth of stores, but from that same scene, the agents of the Sanitary Commission had, by incredible efforts, brought off all its stores.

Question.—Do officers and surgeons re

ceive help from these stores as the private soldiers do?

Answer.—Certainly; if an officer is in distress, he has the same claim upon our mercy as his men. A brave man, suffering among other brave men, that is all we see, we do not look to know whether he wears the chevron or the eagle. And the surgeons, there is no work so exhausting to body and soul as theirs. Should they be debarred from the warmth and refreshment they so much need, because they are "officers?"

Dr. Marks bore heartfelt testimony to the devotedness of the surgeons to their work. He told an anecdote of an officer, who could not say he was sick or in need, yet very much desired to buy some of the comforts the Commission had in its storehouse. He was reminded that the Commission held its goods for the suffering, and only gave, not sold. His answer was, "It is very unfortunate to be an officer."

PRISONERS.

Question.—Do the prisoners really receive what the Sanitary Commission sends them?

Answer.—It is impossible to say if they receive all, but they return to us, when exchanged, clothed in garments bearing the Commission's stamp, and speak of receiving food sent by it.

SALARIES.

Question.—Is it true that Dr. Bellows receives a salary of from six to ten thousand dollars a year?

Answer.—Dr. Bellows receives no salary whatever.

Question.—Does any woman in the service of the Commission receive a salary?

Answer, by Miss Bradley.—Yes; I receive $10 per month, and draw rations from Government.

Question.—Does any woman receive a larger salary?

Answer.—The Commission has paid, for most important services, as much as $600 per year.

Question.—Have you ever found men ashamed to receive help from the Commission—calling it begging?

Answer.—Never; such feelings, if they exist, are exceptional.

Question.—Does the Commission refuse to give to regulars?

Answer.—Never.

CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.

Question.—Has the Christian Commission any salaried agents?

In answer, a letter from Dr. Parrish, of Philadelphia, was read as follows:

"I was told by an agent of the Christian Commission, a few days since, that their pay to permanent field agents is $50 per month—the Sanitary Commission pays for the same service $45. I am informed, by one of their members, that they now have canvassing agents in the field, on good salaries, and are in want of more. I was also told, by one of the agents of the Christian Commission, at Annapolis, that one of the corps at that place was inclined to work in future for the Sanitary Commission, but hesitated because he was better paid by the Christian Commission."

It was suggested, by a delegate, that in view of the fact that the agents of the Christian Commission had been chiefly clergymen, whose salaries had been continued to them, and their desks supplied during their absence, and also, that the Christian Commission paid all traveling expenses, the amount of money in reality spent for their services had been more than that paid to the agents of the Sanitary Commission.

A delegate here rose to say, that so far as she knew, the feeling in her community was not any questioning about economy, or practical methods, but about the final purposes of the two Commissions; the impression being, that while the Christian Commission, which gave the rightful first place of importance to healing the spirit, the Sanitary Commission applied its powers solely to succoring the body.

REV. W. B. MARSH.

The Rev. Mr. Marsh, of the Presbyterian Church, who is now lecturing in the service of the Sanitary Commission, speaking in answer, begged the delegates to combat this idea as utterly untrue. Any man, unmindful of such interests, would be unfit for service in the scenes he would have to share. He had never known an agent of the Commission who was not ready to give the spiritual help a man needs in the hour of death, but had seen many a bedside where they read the Bible and knelt down to pray.

A little scrap of paper was here handed to the President, who read it aloud. It said the writer had five brothers in the

army, who wrote, in grateful terms, of the services of every kind which the Sanitary Commission had rendered them.

It was asked why the two Commissions should not divide the supplies given by the people, according to the work nominally undertaken by each. The Sanitary Commission devotes itself to saving life as the first step towards better things; the Christian Commission announces its work as concerning the soul. Let each, then, take the gifts appropriate to its special duty; if the Christian Commission receives stores, let it hand them to the Sanitary Commission, and this in turn pass over to the other books, both secular and religious, which it receives in large numbers; and the means of each being greatly increased by this united canvassing of the country, let them go into the field together, friends. How simple and reasonable the question seemed. How full of usefulness and good of every kind would be the result.

Miss Bradley here put very urgently before the meeting the immeasurable loss of time and money which must be incurred in leaving an old and experienced guide in the intricate labors on which depend the life or death of thousands of men. The Commission knows the proportion of need over all the vast fields of war; by favor of Government, knows just when, in this army or that, there will be battles and misery, and men dying for want of warmth and food, and then it sends out its agents and nurses, with full measure of succor for the time. It may leave its storehouses empty, with nothing to answer the daily calls from the hospitals, but it knows such calls are not to be counted one moment in comparison with the needs of the battle-fields. It is this discrimination which makes the vast organization of the Commission the means of accomplishing the most good with the least waste.

SECTARIANISM.

She expressed her surprise at the idea which she had received, for the first time this morning, that questions of sectarianism entered into this work. She lived so occupied by constant labor, she said, that she had no time to study outside motives. It seemed to her most strange and sad that it should be so. Was not every church represented in the Soldiers' Aid Societies throughout the country? Were they not all conscious of the same desire—to do their best to relieve those who so need relief? Why, then, should there be any words of division among them? Let the question of creeds be forgotten. Christ's sermon was a sure guide to good and blessed deeds; whoever followed that was safe in the shadow of blessing for himself and his work. She told a little story, which touched, in real experience, the very point of the discussion. It was of a soldier, a young boy, who lay dying in her hospital. He asked her if it were indeed so that he must die. She told him yes, and taking her Bible from her pocket, she read to him the 14th chapter of St. John, and then knelt down beside him and prayed. Presently she left him, cheerful and submissive. Returning soon, she found the agent of the Christian Commission speaking to him of his danger, asking him if he should read the Bible to him? "*She* has read to me," was the answer. "Shall I not pray with you?" "*She* has prayed with me." Although a woman, and a member of no sectarian church, her words had brought him into the peace of God.

The hour having arrived when many of the delegates were forced to leave, the Chairman closed the meeting with a few words, refering to the earnest feeling displayed, expressing regret that our intercourse could not be longer, and bidding all good-bye as friends.

Documents of importance were freely distributed, and the delegates dispersed. We were glad to welcome some of them again in our office during the week, to show them our whole system of management, and talk with them over details. We felt the insufficient time that the two meetings allowed for the many questions and remarks which would have been pleasant and most useful to both parties, and if another year finds us still needed at our post, we shall profit by this experience, and keep our friends with us for a longer space.

The reports of the Soldiers' Aid Societies, brought to us by the delegates, contained most valuable details of information, and we propose to draw up a tabulated resume of the items for constant reference; the reports themselves being filed among our original documents. The testimony that many of them bear to the hopefulness and faithfulness of these societies, often very poor, yet never desparing that means would come, makes the reading a lesson to sink deep in the heart.

In closing this report, we wish personally to express our heartfelt appreciation of the sympathy and support which were so cordially expressed. Feeling the paramount usefulness of the Commission whose name we bear, we rejoice to find such earnest approval and firm faith among the workers of New England.

MARY G. LORING,
Sec. Exec. Com. New Eng. Women's Aux. Asso.

Special Relief Department.

SPECIAL RELIEF REPORT FROM BOSTON.

BY JOHN S. BLATCHFORD.

For Executive Committee of Boston Associates.

I submit herewith, on behalf of the "Executive Committee of Boston Associates," under whose direction it has been administered, a Report concerning the Special Relief Service of the U. S. Sanitary Commission in this city, for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1864.

With the quarterly statement is also presented the total results of the service, embracing the whole period since its organization, April 1, 1863, to Dec. 31, 1864, a period of twenty-one months.

Aid Rendered,	Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1864.	Total.
Furnished transportation at Government rate,	2,179	10,369
Do. paid by Commission,	9	228
Do. by U. S. Quartermaster,	1,022	1,956
Furnished carriage within the city,	632	4,707
" special attendance to their homes,	10	110
Furnished lodging,	5,424	18,497
" meals,	6,444	23,666
" Clothing,	63	613
" Aid in arranging papers,	27	209
" Aid in obtaining pay,	19	245
" Medical advice,	915	1,604
Wounds dressed,	1,156	4,344
Procured commutation of rations,		76
Loaned money,	43	175
Gave money,	16	134
Sent to Hospital,	17	147
Referred to local Relief Associations,	10	56
Re-enlisted,	1	28
Deaths	2	8
Furnished undertakers' services,	2	11
Amount of pay collected,	$2,271 04	$28,799 76
Furnished transportation by hospital cars,	4,125	15,876
Number of soldiers aided,	12,397	47,388
Daily average,	137 2-3	

Of the whole number that have received aid at our Relief Rooms, amounting to 31,512—as distinct from the "Hospital Car Service"—Maine has furnished 12,502, New Hampshire 1658, Vermont 201, Massachusetts 12,209, Connecticut 148, Rhode Island 101, New York 260, New Jersey 7, Pennsylvania 57, Maryland 7, District of Columbia 224, Ohio 95, Kentucky 14, Michigan 12, Indiana 12, Illinois 28, Kansas 7, Iowa 13, Minnesota 38, Wisconsin 26, Missouri, 12, Tennessee 3, North Carolina 4, Louisiana 6, Alabama 4, Virginia 4, Georgia 2, California, Mississippi, Florida, Arkansas, Delaware, and South Carolina, 1 each; U. S. Regulars, 1,185; U. S. Navy, 270; Veteran Reserve Corps, 2,251; Corps D'Afrique, 24; Rebel Army, 3.

The following supplies have been drawn from the Supply department of the, "N. E. Women's Auxiliary Association," Woolen shirts, 102; woolen drawers, 96; socks, 108 pairs; pants, 3; 1 lot old clothing; 2 lots bandages; 6 vests; 2 lots lint.

For Hospital Cars—6 pairs socks, 6 pairs slippers, 1 lot lint. For special use—1 pair pants, 2 blouses, 1 comfort bag, 1 bed-sack, 1 wool shirt, 1 pair socks, 1 pillow, 1 pair wool drawers.

The whole amount of supplies furnished by the "N. E. Women's Auxiliary Association," for use in the Special Relief Service in this city, since its organization is as follows:

Bed quilts, 13; blankets, 61; sheets, 286; pillows, 97; pillow-cases, 221; towels, 78; tin cups, 6; water pails, 2; bed comforters, 37; bed sacks, 74; woolen shirts, 308; cotton shirts, 140; woolen drawers, 217; cotton drawers, 119; socks, 388 pair; handkerchiefs, 73; slippers, 62 pairs; slings, 518; dressing gowns, 2; pants, 7; overcoats, 1; coats, 2; old clothing, 4 lots; bandages, 14 lots; crutches, 12 pairs; gaiters, 20; vests, 6; lint, 2 lots. For 55th Massachusetts Regiment at Readville Hospital, May 30, 1863—1 dozen wool shirts, 12 pairs wool socks, 12 wool drawers, 12 sheets. June 24, 1863—7 pillows, 7 pillow cases.

For Springfield Street Home, August 10, 1863—24 woolen shirts. For Hospital Cars, October 23, 1863—2 dozen each of towels, sleeping-caps, handkerchiefs and slippers; 12 each of woolen socks and dressing-gowns.

For camp at Long Island, December 7, 1863—35 bed sacks, 24 pairs mittens.

For Hospital, Fort Warren, February 4, 1864—1 pair pants, 3 pairs socks, 2 pairs drawers, 2 shirts.

For Pemberton Square Hospital, April 23, 1864—1 lot of old linen.

For camp at Concord, July 1, 1864—6 pairs cotton drawers, 6 cotton shirts, 3 pairs slippers, 1 lot bandages and lint.

For Hospital Cars, October 11, 1864—6 pairs socks, 6 pairs slippers, 1 lot lint.

	Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1864.	Total.
Transportation has been furnished by orders issued upon respective railroads to	2,179	10,369
Do. procured from U.S. Quartermaster,	1,022	1,956
	3,201	12,325
Transportation by Hospital cars, between New York and Boston, has been furnished to	4,125	15,876
Cost of Hospital Car service,	$431 42	$3,022 95
Average cost per man,	10 3-7c.	19 1-24c.

The following supplies have been furnished to the Hospital Cars during the quarter: Brandy, 7 bottles; whisky, 8 do.; wine, 4 do.; crackers, 1 keg; extract of coffee, 1 can; slippers, 12 pairs; 4 ounces quinine; 4 do. ginger; 1 bottle spirits ammonia; 1 do. camphor; 4 rolls adhesive plaster; 1 lot bandages; 1 do. rags; 1 do. lint; 1 lancet; 6 pairs woolen socks; 1 hatchet; 1 lantern.

The total expenditure for the quarter has been $7,465 50, classified as follows:

Rent and taxes,	238 84
Furnishing and repairs,	66 70
Salaries,	753 99
Traveling expenses,	24 00
Adver ising,	97 03
Stationery and printing,	252 05
Postage,	8 00
Hospital stores,	27 00
Superintendent's expense account,	5,547 61
Miscellaneous,	10 66
Hospital Car service,	431 42
Document account,	8 20
	$7,465 50

Classification of Superintendent's Expense Account.

Transportation,	174 75
Traveling expenses,	26 93
Meals,	4,726 74
Furniture,	15 50
Fuel,	37 60
Washing,	209 50
Salaries,	98 00
Money loaned and given,	123 99
Postage,	6 00
Sundries,	137 25

The results of the Special Relief Service of the Commission in this city, for the whole period since its organization, may be briefly summed up as follows:

Whole number of men aided,	47,388
Whole expenditure,	$35,377 38
Average cost per man,	74 3-4c.
Number of soldiers furnished with meals,	23,686
Number of meals furnished,	47,096
Average number of meals per man,	2
Amount paid for meals,	$16,293 25
Average cost per meal,	34 3-5c.
Number of orders issued for transportation at Government rate,	11,802
Aggregate miles of distances,	1,502,403
Resulting in a saving to the soldier of	$13,238 01
Amount of money loaned and given,	$561 19
Number of recipients,	309
Average amount to each,	$1 81
Amount returned,	$220 44
Average amount returned,	2-5
Number furnished with clothing,	613
Number of garments furnished,	1298
Average per man,	2 1-8
Number transported by Hospital car,	15,876
Total cost of "Hospital Car Service,"	$3,022,95
Average cost per man,	19 1-24c.

The comparative cost of the service (including "Hospital Car Service,") is exhibited by the average cost per man for the successive quarterly periods since its organization as follows:

First Quarter ending	June 30, 1863,		$2 35
Second "	"	Sept. 30, 1863,	$1 28
Third "	"	Dec. 31, 1863,	99 15-21c.
Fourth "	"	March 31, 1864,	73 21-44c.
Fifth "	"	June 30, 1864,	68 17-22c
Sixth "	"	Sept. 30, 1864,	63 1-3c.
Seventh "	"	Dec, 31, 1864,	60 1-5c.

REPORT OF SPECIAL RELIEF WORK IN WASHINGTON.

For the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1864, *to Rev. F. N. Knapp.*

BY J. B. ABBOTT.

SIR:—I respectfully submit the following report of the "Special Relief" Office, and the several Lodges under my supervision, for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1864.

Number of pay accounts of discharged soldiers received for adjustment,	362
Number of cases settled,	362
Amount collected,	$67,175 00
Number of bounty claims received,	97
Number of claims allowed,	115
Amount collected on claims allowed,	$10,750 00
Number of cases for back pay, received,	543
Number of cases adjusted,	487
Amount secured on the cases adjusted,	$35,121 97
Number of prisoner of war claims entered,	147
Number allowed,	56
Amount collected on claims allowed	$5,324 45
Number of naval claims filed,	248
Number of naval claims allowed,	155
Amount collected on claims allowed,	$24,560 55
Number of pension claims filed,	654
Number of pension claims allowed,	257
Amount saved to claimants on the claims allowed,	$2,570

Number of claims for arrears of pay and bounty filed,	71
Number of claims allowed,	10
Amount saved to claimants on the claims allowed,	$100
Whole number of cases and claims entered upon our record,	2,122
Whole number of cases and claims completed,	1,442
Total amount of money collected on the claims completed,	**$144,378 61**

The amount collected does not include the amount received on pension claims.

In calculating the amonnt saved on pensions, and arrears of pay and bounty claims, I have only allowed the legal fee on each claim.

Number of drafts forwarded,	295
Amount of drafts forwarded,	$29,977 98
Number of letters received,	5,039
Number of business letters mailed,	5,017

RELIEF STATIONS.

Lodge No. 4.

Number of lodgings furnished to soldiers and seamen,	5,410
Number of meals given to soldiers, seamen and others,	41,383

I have no reports from the other relief stations for the quarter as yet.

The monthly reports of the relief stations for October and November were sent to you.

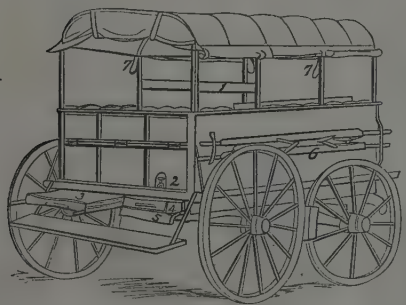
AMBULANCES.

In the early history of field warfare but few appliances were at hand for the benefit of the wounded in battle. Prior to the invention of gunpowder, wounds were inflicted by swords, daggers, spears, &c., or by dull heavy weapons, which caused only contusions. But little skill comparatively was needed to dress such wounds, and the military surgery of those days was necessarily limited to but few means for relief. Gun-shot wounds, however, are much more serious and alarming, and with the introduction of gunpowder, there was a marked development in surgical skill, and in the means for relieving suffering, though it was not uncommon to leave the wounded to the casual sympathies of the people among whom the battles were fought. Surgeons, however, were found without military rank or emolument, rendering services to the afflicted as they had opportunity. The celebrated military surgeon, in the time of Henry IV., of France, by name Ambroise Paré, held no rank whatever in the army, and in the function which he voluntarily assumed in the service of his country, acquired a reputation for probity and skill to which his superior genius justly entitled him; but it was not till the time of Louis XIII. that a chief military surgeon, with rank, was attacked to each regiment of the French army. It was there likewise that hospitals were established, both stationary and moveable; and it is to these latter that the term ambulance is applied.

An ambulance is a covered wagon for the immediate conveyance of the wounded from the scene of battle to the field hospital immediately in the rear, and indeed, for the conveyance of the sick and helpless from one hospital to another. Each army corps has its organized ambulance corps, with its chief to control all its movements, with its surgeons, stretcher-bearers, drivers, &c. In a subsequent number, we shall furnish the plan of working an ambulance train. In this, we introduce the subject only, with the following cuts of an improved ambulance, which will bear the study they demand for a complete understanding of their arrangement.

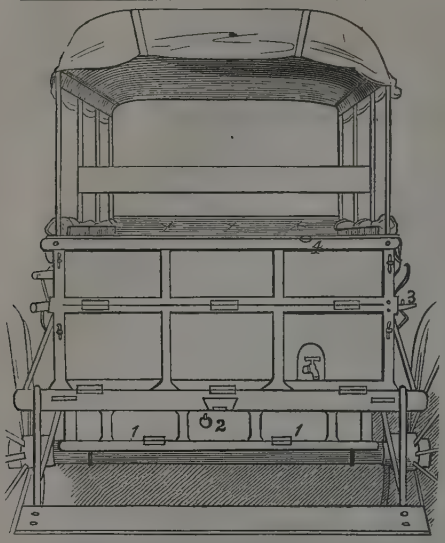
Springs, cushions, beds, water tanks, fracture swings, &c., &c., enter into the arrangement, and every comfort that could be contrived for a moveable or flying hospital seems to have been anticipated. We commend the sketches below to the investigation of the curious, and have only to say, that the minuteness in the detail, as well as the general plan of construction, are the result, in a measure, of the thoughts and efforts of members of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

1, frame in which beds and seats rest; 2, interspaces between frame and body for lateral counterpoise springs; 3, inside of upper section of tail-board; 4, bed sliding over seats; 5, rollers on which bed slide, clearing seats; 6, 7, spigot of water tanks protected by upper leaf of tail-board, lowered.

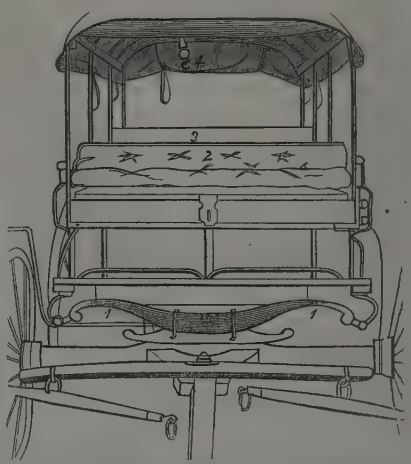


1, leather moveable back for middle seat; 2, spigot of water tank; 3, bed with handles drawn partly out, on small steel rollers sunk in floor of compartment; 4, bed in position; 5, inside of door for compartment for beds; 6, stretchers; 7, loop for gun rack or head rests.

a, iron rowel (revolving) to facilitate turning; *b*, semi-elliptical spring; *c*, moveable leather back on iron brackets; *d*, compartment for beds when not in use.

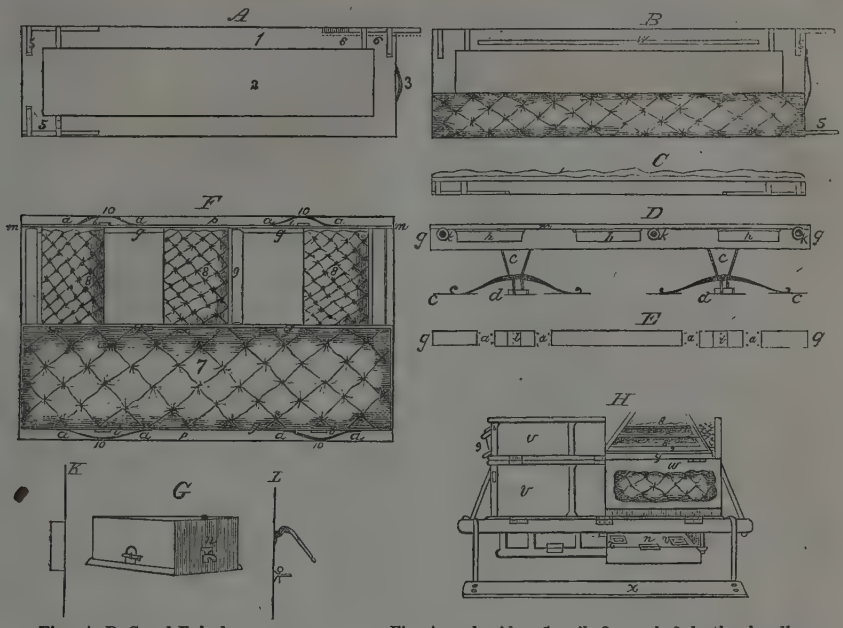


1, compartment for beds when not in use, fastening by a spring catch at 2; 3, clasp for stretcher; 4, notch, forming arch over and protecting spigot of water tank, when upper section of tail-board is let down.



1, stout semi-eliptical spring; 2, complete back to driver's seat; 3, leather back to middle seats; 4, hook for fractures.

a, stanchions of frame on counterpoise springs, with blocks of india-rubber at *b*, and pin at *c*, to prevent lateral displacement of spring; *d*, iron clasp, and *e*, loop for stretcher; *f*, hook and wheel running on parallel iron bars for suspension of fractures: *g*, one of the seats removed from its bed in frame *h*; *i*, inside of lower section of tail-board; *k*, fastening rendering water tank motionless; *m*, interspace between body of ambulance and frame for lateral springs.



Figs. A, B, C and F, beds. Fig. A, underside. 1, rail; 2, panel; 3, leather handle.
Fig. B, upper side, one-half cushioned. 4, iron bars let partly in rail; 5, (figs. A and B), iron handles, dotted lines indicate grooves in which tongue of handle work. The part handled is round, the rest of handle square. Fig. C, side view. Fig. F, 7, bed in position.
Figs. F and H, 8, 8, 8, seats, permanent but one; 9, rollers, clear cushions of seats ¼ inch.
Fig. F, 10, counterpoise springs lateral, fastened inside of ambulance body.
Figs. F and E, *a*, iron slides on which ends of springs play; *b*, rubber block.
Fig. D, perpendicular. *c*, iron plates on floor of ambulance on which ends of springs play; *d*, by which spring stanchion and frame are secured; *e*, block of rubber in staple. Figs. F, D, E and H, frame.
Fig. D, ledges for seat *h*; *k*, ledges for rollers. Figs. D, F and H, *m*, ledges for bed on rollers.
Fig. E is outside of D. Water tanks, fig. G, showing grooved slide and fastening.
Figs. G and H, *n*, spigot. Fig. D, *o*, stanchions, of which only four.
Figs. F and H, *p*, interspace for lateral spring between frame and body of ambulance.
Stretcher holders, K, L and *g* H.
Fig. H, *r*, compartments for beds when not in use; *s*, steel rollers; *u*, spring catch; *v*, tail-board upper and lower sections closed; *w*, inside of upper section showing cushions and back of seat; *x*, step.

INTERESTING LETTERS FROM ANNAPOLIS.

BY MRS. PARRISH.

THE NAVAL ACADEMY HOSPITAL.

This commodious establishment, which is capable of accommodating two thousand two hundred patients, is in charge of Dr. Vanderkeift, who is assisted by his executive officer, Dr. Ely. At this writing there are two hundred and one officers and four hundred and twenty-eight privates under treatment. What a vast household for the medical skill of physicians, the judicious management of nurses, and the philanthropy of all to care for.

A pretty chapel stands conspicuous among the groupings of other buildings which compose this vast establishment, in which religious service is held every evening in the week, beside twice on the Sabbath day. Here too is the place where so many suffering martyrs are borne to have the solemn funeral rites performed by one who represents a friend indeed, for those who cannot be present to witness the accomplishment of the last sad duty. Nearly every day for the past two weeks many have been deposited here for funeral service; fifteen more bodies were laid before the chancel to-day to have the solemn ceremony read over them; indeed every day some one, or more are borne from this house to the burial lot, where you may at any time find friends searching for the names of loved ones. The Chaplain is most

assiduous and faithful in the performance of his charge, and every heart at home may rejoice that such an one is stationed here for this responsible and sad duty. So far as a visitor can judge, there is no lack of care from any one engaged in this hospital; women nurses hold an honorable rank among the sick; detailed soldiers also render important assistance to them. Miss Howe, of Boston, one of the chief nurses, does much to comfort the soldier, in her wards; she often spends the twilight of the day in playing many sweet and choice hymns on the melodeon, which soothe and cheer the weary and depressed patients. Miss Clarke also renders excellent service to the men so lately arrived from Southern slavery. I have met her in the tents with an encouraging word for each, and a kind promise for the morrow, while busily directing and stamping letters for them.

At this hospital too, is found the Sanitary storeroom, on a larger plan than I have before seen it; every appliance that can be devised by the numerous friends at distant homes, is here represented. Delicacies of great variety, wines, cordials, restoratives, form a large per centage of the needfuls, to say nothing of the clothing that abounds, all of which is distributed with much care.

The government supplies are in much greater variety, and more abundant than formerly, yet there are times when it is necessary to supplement the government. For this purpose the wise foresight of the Sanitary Commission has provided a full amount in large variety, so that no matter what accident may befall the government supplies or transportation, the soldiers shall have a second chance, if the first fails. This strikes us as among the most important features of the Commission—to anticipate want—to be prepared for it.

PRISONERS' FUNERAL.

Attended the funeral of forty-two soldier prisoners, who had died on their passage home. None can tell the sadness of such a scene but those who have been present on a similiar occasion. Fourteen ambulances stood at one time before the "Dead House" to receive the bodies, which were placed in coffins, and each one marked with name, regiment and company to which deceased had belonged. They were then carried to the wagons, three in number being assigned to each. Four men accompanied each ambulance, and moved slowly on toward the chapel, preceded by a band of musicians who sounded their usual mournful dirge, till all had drawn up in front of the building where service was to be performed.

A promiscuous company had assembled —ministers, surgeons, officers, and comrades of the battle-field and prison were gathered about the place. Women, who represented mothers, wives and sisters were there, and sang with pathos several beautiful hymns.

Chaplain Henries read, in an audible voice, the names of the dead, as corresponding with those on the coffins before us. He was followed by another minister who addressed those present, and offered an appropriate prayer.

The procession then wended its way slowly through the town to the cemetery, distant two miles, the musicians leading the train, followed by an escort, the chaplain on horse, and soldiers walking as pall-bearers by the side of the ambulances.

While we witnessed this sad ceremony entrusted to stranger hands, I was much impressed with the great order and solemnity that pervaded the occasion, and wished that all the mothers in the land, whose sons had been sacrificed in the strife of battle, could know how faithfully and tenderly the last duties to their loved ones were attended to. The pastor at home was represented by the chaplain, the family by sympathizing friends, the neighbors and associates by those who had been comrades with the deceased in camp or in battle, in prison or in hospital, and now followed them to their final resting place, and the soldier, no longer a prisoner, but released from the slow torture of hunger and disease, was laid away forever.

After all were interred, the musicians gathered near, and in plaintive melody united in the hymn, "Come, ye disconsolate," after which the chaplain read the burial service, prayed for those about him and the anxious ones at home, who yet knew not what sorrow awaited them. The body-guards, or escort, then came forward, and, according to military custom, fired a volley three times over the graves of the departed, and, with uncovered heads, passed in single file along the row of open sepulchres and resumed their march to the hospital.

FLESH EXTRACT FOR THE DIET OF FEVER PATIENTS.

Half a pound of fresh beef or fowl, minced fine, without fat, is macerated one hour in a pint of cold water, to which four drops of

strong muriatic acid (hydrochloric acid) and a drachm of salt have been previously added. Strain through a jelly bag or fine lawn sieve, and if to be very nice, filter through coarse French filter paper. No fat globules or muscular fibres are allowable in the filtered liquid. To improve its flavor, a pinch of allspice or mace (ground) may be thrown into the mince, and to the filtered liquid add, if desired, two or three teaspoonfuls of good sherry wine. This soup may be administered in doses of two drachms once in two hours, and oftener in convalescence.

B. S. SILLIMAN.

NORTHWESTERN SANITARY COMMISSION.

Branch of U. S. Sanitary Commission, Rooms No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

FINANCIAL REPORT,

From the organization of the Commission, November 4, 1861, to December 31, 1864.

I.—SUPPLIES COLLECTED.

During the three years and two months existence of the Commission, there have been donated, collected, purchased, packed and forwarded through its agency, for distribution to our soldiers in the hospitals, armies and on the battle-fields, sixty-eight thousand eight hundred and three packages of Sanitary and Hospital supplies. Of this number there were sent directly by the people from their homes to the soldiers, ... 27,681
The remainder contained supplies purchased, as stated below, 41,122
68,803

II.—OF WHAT THESE SUPPLIES CONSISTED.

These supplies consisted of articles of diet, medical supplies, clothing, bedding, bandages, hospital furniture, ales and liquors.

III.—THEIR APPRAISED CASH VALUATION.

The appraised cash valuation of these supplies at the respective dates of their receipt by the Commission, amounts to the total sum of $964,059 71

Classified as follows:

Articles of diet and medical supplies, . .	$337,871 14	
Clothing, bedding, bandages, &c., . . .	558,023 83	
Hospital furniture, cots, mattrasses, stoves and fixtures, washing machines and wringers, table furniture, &c., .	16,800 44	
Ales and liquors, . .	8,974 30	
1,413 boxes received by the Commission, without accompanying invoices, appraised cash value, ...	42,390 00	
		$964,059 71

IV.—FROM WHERE RECEIVED.

The 27,681 packages above mentioned—received directly from donors—came from the following sources:

	Pkgs.
Illinois, ...	9,593
Wisconsin, ...	6,969
Iowa, ...	4,085
Michigan, ...	5,264
Indiana, ...	369
Ohio, ...	22
Minnesota, ...	266
New York, ...	87
Pennsylvania, ...	4
Through "Board of Trade," Chicago,	855
Unknown, ...	167
	27,681

V.—TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

The total amount of cash received by the Commission since its organization, is $307,390 55
Total amount expended, . . . 287,479 76

Balance in the hands of the Treasurer, as per certificate of Auditing Committee, dated December 31, 1864, $19,910 79

VI.—FROM WHERE RECEIVED.

The above amount of cash collected—$307,390 55—was received from the following sources:

Citizens of Chicago, . . .	$40,331 13
State of Illinois, outside of Chicago,	55,541 68
Iowa, (of which amount, $48,348, was the proceeds of the Northern Iowa Sanitary Fair, held at Dubuque, September, 1864, . .	50,229 40
Wisconsin, ...	8,597 86
Michigan, ...	7,901 28
New York, ...	1,054 75
Connecticut, ...	650 78
Minnesota, ...	565 02
Tennessee, proceeds of Ladies' Fair at Memphis, ...	398 31
Indiana, ...	220 53
California, ...	203 45
Pennsylvania, ...	100 00
Nebraska, ...	11 60
Utah, ...	5 00
Missouri, ...	3 40
Berlin, ...	10 00
Bavaria, ...	8 00
Soldiers in the Army, . . .	20 05
Proceeds of sale of cotton, donated to the Commission by Maj. Gen. U. S. Grant, ...	1,752 20
Net cash proceeds of N. W. Sanitary Fair, held in Chicago, Oct. 1863,	75,100 27
U. S. Sanitary Commission, expended in purchase of potatoes and onions, shipped to army in Tennessee and Georgia, ...	47,168 58
U. S. Sanitary Commission, expended for salaries of agents and nurses,	3,526 55
Amount received from "Hospital Fund" of sundry hospitals, and expended for purchase of supplies as requested by surgeons in charge,	8,654 69
Amount specially contributed for the relief of Union refugees, . .	1,829 52
Amount contributed by friends in Huntsville, Ala., for relief of prisoners at Camp Douglas, and	

handed to officer in command,		108 00
Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill., amount received for "Savings," up to December 1, 1864,		6,398 50
Total receipts,		$307,390 55

VII.—ACCOUNT OF EXPENDITURES.

The total amount of cash disbursements, as above stated—$287,479 76—during three years and two months, was expended as follows:

Supplies, hospital and sanitary, including articles of diet, medical supplies, clothing, bedding, hospital furniture, ales and liquors, purchased and forwarded to the hospitals, army, battle-fields, and Soldiers' Homes at Chicago, Cairo, Columbus, Paducah and Memphis,		$230,645 02
Material for hospital garments, made up at the sewing-room,	$9,162 20	
Cost of making up into shirts, drawers, socks and eye-shades,	758 79	
		9,920 99
Appropriations to Soldiers' Home, Chicago,	$6,000 00	
Appropriations to Soldiers' Home, Dubuque,	1,000 00	
		7,000 00
Salaries of agents and nurses in the field and at post hospitals, and their travelling expenses ($1,779 84)		8,965 79
Clerk hire at rooms of the Commission,		6,178 52
Labor, for handling, unpacking, distributing, marking and packing goods at rooms, loading cars at railroad stations, cleaning, painting and fitting up of office and warehouse at Chicago, and labor at Soldiers' Home, Cairo,		4,562 27
Drayage, Express and freight, including drayage on goods to and from railroad stations, Express Company's charges on money and goods, and freight charges on goods,		6,383 91
Stationery, including paper, envelopes, wrappers, pens, ink and blank books,		180 29
Printing Circulars advising of supplies needed, &c., reports of army inspection, reports of receipts, shipments and disbursements, direction cards, letter and envelope headings, labels, blank receipts and advertisements,		4,290 21
Postage on letters and documents,		1,229 15
Telegraphing,		203 93
Warehouse and office furniture and fixtures, including signs, locks and keys, chisel, watering-pot, pails, maps, chairs, oil cloth, desks, saws, hatchets, skids, matches, and carpenter work,		265 91
Rent of office, warehouse and sewing-room,		1,306 64
Fuel,		285 72
Sewing-room Expenses— Brushes, tables, shears and scissors, pail, brooms, pitchers, dust pan, wash bowl, chairs, stationery, needles, machine oil, soap, screw driver, carpenter work, and repairing sewing machines,		141 51
Amount advanced for proposed "North-western Sanitary and Soldiers' Home Fair,"		505 33
Agents and nurses of the U. S. Sanitary Commission paid from funds received for this purpose,		3,526 55
Union refugees, amount specially contributed for this object,		1,840 02
Camp Douglas, prisoners, amount received for this purpose,		108 00
Total expenditures,		$287,479 76

E. W. BLATCHFORD, *Treasurer.*

NECESSITY OF SANITARY COMMISSION'S CONTINUANCE.

Extract from Report of DR. M. M. MARSH, *dated Beaufort, S. C., Dec. 26, 1864, relating to the recent advance of a portion of Maj. Gen. Foster's command towards the Charleston and Savannah Railroad.*

* * * The present Expedition, now four weeks in progress, has been very exhaustive of stores. From the 30th of November to the 6th of December the entire sick and wounded subsisted upon the Commission. This condition of things resulted from a lack of commissary stores for the first four days; the remaining two, from the slow working of the machinery necessary to draw rations after arrival on the ground. The drafts upon clothing, too, have been disproportionate to the number of men. All were ordered upon the field in light marching order, *i. e.* with rubber blankets only, and many of the regiments were even unprovided with these. They were ordered to take five days food only, with the expectation of returning to camp at the expiration of that period. Food was obtained from the surrounding country, in part, but the underclothing worn from camp, was the only clothing aside from the issues by the Sanitary Commission, for three successive weeks, for almost the entire army. And during this period was experienced a storm of wind and rain of unusual length and severity, and the mercury for two successive mornings down to 24°. Our issues of shirts, drawers and socks exceeded three thousand each, and blankets proportionate; but these last will, to an extent, be returned, as their own are obtained from their previous camp, or the deficiency drawn from the Quarter-master. * * *

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3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

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THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

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A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq, New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., Cambridge, Mass.
S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clark, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, jr., Philadelphia, Penna.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
Charles J. Stillé, Philadelphia, Penna.
Ezra B. McCagg, Chicago, Ill.

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C. R. Agnew, M.D.	Charles J. Stillé.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regi-

ment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 11 Cooper Union, New York.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, State House, New Haven, Conn.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

DEPOTS OF DISTRIBUTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 244 F Street, Washington, D. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Distribution, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 46 Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Harper's Ferry, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Annapolis, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Parole, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, City Point, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Newberne, N. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Beaufort, S. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, New Orleans, La

Temporary Depots for distribution are established from time to time as necessities of the service require.

DEPARTMENT OF THE WEST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, N. Y.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 59 Fourth Street, Pittsburgh, Penna.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Columbus, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

EAST.

"Special Relief" Office, 76 Kingston Street, Boston, Mass.

"Special Relief" Office, 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

"Soldiers' Rest," Buffalo, Exchange street, opposite R. R. Depot.

"Soldiers' Lodge," Harrisburg, Pa.

"The Home," Baltimore, Md.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," Annapolis, Md.

"Special Relief Office," No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C., where assistance is rendered in procuring Pay, Pensions, Bounty, Prize Money, and arrears of Pay and Bounty, and in various other ways.

"The Home," No. 374 N. Capitol Street, Washington, D. C.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," 374 N. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 4," for discharged soldiers, No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 5," near terminus of Washington and Alexandria R. R., Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 6," near Steamboat Landing, Sixth Street, Washington, D. C.

"Alexandria Lodge," near terminus of Orange and Alexandria R. R., Alexandria, Va.

"Special Relief Office," New Orleans, La.

"The Home," New Orleans, La.

WEST.

Soldiers' Home, No. 81 Jefferson avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

Soldiers' Home, Third Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky., James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, New Albany, corner of Main and State Streets.

Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill., C. N. Shipman, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn., Captain I. Brayton, Sup't. Rev. J. Hoblit, Relief Agent

Soldiers' Home, Columbus, Ohio, Col. Isaac Dalton, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, Ohio, Joseph Jerome, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Lodge, near landing, Memphis, Tenn., C. W. Christy, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Camp Nelson, Ky., Thomas Butler, Superintendent.

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SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * *

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THT SAME.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General.
C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept. 20, 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,
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U. S. Sanitary Commission.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT to October 1st, 1864.

In the "Cost of Purchasing Supplies" are items 1, 2 and 5 of "Supply Department."
In the "Cost of Gathering Supplies" are items 3 and 4, together with expenses of New York and Brooklyn Fairs.
As "Equipments on Hand," are counted the present value of horses, wagons, barges, etc.
As "Transportation," is reckoned the remainder of items 7 and 8.
Of the "Expenses of Field Relief Corps" ($176,088 79), one-third part is transferred to "Special Relief," so that "distribution on Field" consists of two-thirds of the expenses of "Field Relief Corps," and one-half the expenses of "Auxiliary Relief Corps."
The "General Expenses" are distributed among the several accounts, *pro rata.*

Total Cash Expenditure	$2,293,604 15
Transferred to Western Sanitary Com...	50,000 00
Cash in hands of Agents	64,027 90
Balance in hands of Treasurer	615,166 03
Value of Equipments on hand	60,326 50
	$3,083,124 58

Value of supplies received in kind	$7,134,661 15
Cost of supplies purchased	1,200,579 29
Value of supplies distributed	8,335,240 44
Outlays not for supplies	1,093,024 86
Total	$9,428,265 30

		Cost increased by Proportional share General Expenses.	Percentage of Cash Outlays.	Percentage of total supplies distributed.	Percentage of Total
Money paid for supplies	$1,200,579 29	$1,243,280 01	54.21	14.92	13.19
Cost of gathering supplies	86,657 13	89,739 25	3.91	1.08	0.95
Storehouse account	23,351 85	24,182 14	1.05	0.29	0.26
Transportation	192,404 40	199,247 52	8.69	2.39	2.11
Distribution on Field	135,992 53	140,829 27	6.14	1.69	1.49
Medical Inspection	119,985 69	124,201 32	5.42	1.49	1.32
Special Relief	309,796 94	320,815 10	13.99	3.85	3.40
Hospital Directory	47,564 94	49,257 01	2.15	0.59	0.52
Statistical Department	14,241 98	14,748 50	0.64	0.18	0.16
Publications	38,800 37	40,180 50	1.75	0.48	0.43
Office Salaries	45,504 72	47,123 53	2.05	0.56	0.50
Sum	2,214,830 16	2,293,604 15	100.00	27.52	24.33
General Expenses	78,774 31				
Total Cash outlays	$2,293,604 15				

Consequently, of the supplies distributed, 14.92 per cent. were purchased.
85.08 " " received in kind.

The cost of Supplies purchased	was.....14.92	per cent. of supplies distributed and	13.19 of "Total."
" " Gathering, Storing, Assorting, etc.	" 1.37		1.21
" " Transportation and Field Distribution	" 4.08		3.60
" " Medical Inspection	" 1.49		1.32
" " Special Relief and Hospital Directory	" 4.44		3.92
" " Office Salaries	" 0.56		0.50
All other cash outlays	..... 0.66		0.59
All cash outlays, except purchasing supplies	.....12.60		11.14
The value of Supplies received in kind	.....85.08		75.67